

ABSTRACT

The present invention discloses therapeutic compositions and methods of use of probiotic, non-lactic acid-producing bacteria to increase the solubility and bioavailability of nutritional materials, preferably vitamins and minerals, within the gastrointestinal tract of an animal or human. The therapeutic compositions of the present invention preferably utilize *Bacillus* species, and most preferably *Bacillus coagulans*, as the lactic acid-producing, probiotic bacterial species. The therapeutic compositions disclosed herein may also contain one or more vitamins or minerals so as to exogenously augment the intake of these substances.

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